



Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach

Socially Disadvantaged, Veteran, and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers, Sustainable Livelihoods, and Equitable Development

● ● ● **REGISTER**

Wednesday | February 2, 2022 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM EST

The meeting highlights the Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach Program (FOTO), consisting of the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP), and the Outreach for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Grant Program (2501 Program).

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
@USDA_NIFA



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, sans-serif font, set against a green background with a stylized mountain range silhouette.

NIFA

BFRDP serves new **farmers and ranchers of all types** – small, mid-size, and large; organic and conventional; commodity producers and specialty crop growers; younger, middle aged and older farmers, limited resource farmers, military veterans, socially disadvantaged farmers, farmworkers, refugees planning to become farmers, and immigrant farmers.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, tall, thin, sans-serif font, set against a green background with a stylized mountain range silhouette.

NIFA

GOAL

The primary goal of NIFA's Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP) is to **increase the number, success and sustainability of beginning farmers and ranchers in the U.S.**, by providing them with the **knowledge, skills, and tools** needed to make informed decisions.

Mission

Educate, mentor, train, and provide technical assistance to beginning farmers and ranchers from zero to up to 10 years in farming.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
@USDA_NIFA

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a large, white, serif font, set against a green background with a stylized mountain range.

The Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program is aligned with the following USDA Strategic Goals:

Strategic Goal 2: Maximize the ability of American agricultural producers to prosper by feeding and clothing the world.

Objective 2.1: Provide an effective financial safety net for
Farmers and ranchers to sustain economically viable agricultural production and support rural jobs and economic growth.

Objective 2.2: Increase agricultural opportunities and support economic growth by creating new markets and supporting a competitive agricultural system.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a large, white, sans-serif font, positioned over a green background with a stylized mountain range silhouette.

NIFA

Funding

- 2018 Farm Bill Combined BFRDP and 2501 Program
- FY 2019-2020 - \$15 million
- FY 2021 - \$17.5 million
- Stimulus/COVID Funding \$37.5 million
- FY 2022 - \$20 million
- FY 2023 - \$25 million/permanent funding thereafter



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
@USDA_NIFA

NIFA

	Dollars	# Transactions
Fully fund FY2020 current awards at requested amount:		
23 awards x \$250,000 / award (large standard grant)	\$ 5,750,000	23
11 awards x \$150,000 / award (small standard grant)	\$ 1,650,000	11
14 awards x \$50,000 / award (simplified standard grant)	\$ 700,000	14
Fully fund FY2020 proposals in medium priority or higher that were not funded in FY2020 (due to insufficient program funds)	\$ 15,241,248	27
Total spent on FY2020 new awards & current projects:	\$ 23,341,248	75
Fully fund FY2019 current awards at requested amount:		
22 awards x \$150,000 / award (large standard grant)	\$ 3,300,000	22
5 awards x \$100,000 /award (small standard grant)	\$ 500,000	5
Total spent on FY2019 current projects:	\$ 3,800,000	27
Total spent on new awards and current projects from FY2019 & FY2020:	\$ 27,141,248	102
<u>Available funding for FY2021 competition:</u>	<u>\$ 7,358,752</u>	



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a large, white, sans-serif font, positioned over a green background that features a stylized mountain range.

Categories

Standard Projects - to provide local and regional training, education, outreach and technical assistance

Large Standard Grants - Up to \$250,000 per year for up to 3 years

Small Standard Grants - Up to \$100,000 per year for up to 3 years

Simplified Standard Grants- Less than \$50,000 for one year

Educational Team Projects – to improve beginning farmer and rancher education in the U.S.

Up to \$250,000 per year for up to 3 years

Clearinghouse



- Maintain and enhance an online accessible library for beginning farmer and rancher education, training, mentoring, and outreach materials produced from projects funded through the BFRDP program and through other sources.
- Facilitate Sharing, Collaboration and Use of Curricula and Information
- Assist in Enhancing Outcome-Based Reporting

Funding Priority Subsets

1. At least 5 percent of funds will go to projects that serve socially disadvantaged beginning farmers or ranchers, limited-resource beginning farmers and ranchers, and/or farm workers desiring to become farmers or ranchers
2. At least 5 percent of funds will go to projects that serve beginning farmers and ranchers who are military veterans

***Not all projects need to address these audiences.**



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, tall, thin, sans-serif font, set against a background of green rolling hills.

NIFA

Proposals Due
5:00 P.M. Eastern, FY 2022: 24 March



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, tall, thin sans-serif font, set against a green background with a stylized mountain silhouette.

NIFA

Legislative Program Priorities 2018 Farm Bill

- Basic livestock, forest management, and crop farming practices;
- Innovative farm, ranch, and private, nonindustrial forest land transfer and succession strategies;
- Entrepreneurship and business training;



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
@USDA_NIFA

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a large, white, sans-serif font, positioned over a green background that depicts rolling hills.

Legislative Program Priorities

2018 Farm Bill (Cont'd)

- Technical assistance to help beginning farmers or ranchers acquire land from retiring farmers and ranchers;
- Financial and risk management training, including the acquisition and management of agricultural credit);
- Natural resource management and planning;
- Diversification and marketing strategies;



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a large, white, sans-serif font, positioned over a green background that features a stylized silhouette of a mountain range.

Legislative Program Priorities 2018 Farm Bill (cont'd)

- Curriculum development;
- Mentoring, apprenticeships, and internships;
- Resources and referral;
- Farm financial benchmarking;



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, tall, thin, sans-serif font, set against a green background with a stylized mountain silhouette.

NIFA

Legislative Program Priorities

2018 Farm Bill (cont'd)

Agricultural rehabilitation and vocational training for veteran farmers and ranchers;

Farm safety and awareness;

Food safety and recordkeeping, and;

Other similar subject areas of use to beginning farmers or ranchers



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, tall, thin, sans-serif font, set against a green background with a stylized mountain silhouette.

NIFA

Keep in Mind

- BFRDP does not support research
- Webinars
 - How to write and prepare your proposal
 - How to prepare your proposal
 - What to do once you're funded
 - Yearly Project Director Meetings to Network
 - Yearly Clearinghouse Meetings
- We are here to help you



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

www.nifa.usda.gov
[@USDA_NIFA](https://twitter.com/USDA_NIFA)

The NIFA logo, consisting of the letters "NIFA" in a white, sans-serif font, positioned over a green background with a stylized leaf or wave pattern.

NIFA

Questions???



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of Partnerships
and Public Engagement (OPPE)

The 2501 Program

OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

**Kenya Nicholas
Deputy Director**

USDA

Mission of USDA

We provide leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues based on public policy, the best available science, and effective management.

Vision of USDA:

We have a vision to provide economic opportunity through innovation, helping rural America to thrive; to promote agriculture production that better nourishes Americans while also helping feed others throughout the world; and to preserve our Nation's natural resources through conservation, restored forests, improved watersheds, and healthy private working lands.

OPPE

Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) rapidly expands outreach to America's agricultural community and facilitate greater access to USDA programs. Additionally, OPPE serves as the lead agent for USDA partnership and outreach activities with tasking and reporting authority to direct, coordinate and control all target programs.

Values

- People
- Data
- Build Leaders

OPPE Programs & Initiatives

- Higher Education Initiative
 - 1890 HBCU Land-Grant Colleges and Universities
 - 1994 Tribal Land-Grant Colleges and Universities
 - Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Grant Program
- Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers
- Strategic Initiatives
 - Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers
 - Military Veterans Agricultural Liaison
 - Youth Coordinator
 - Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

Higher Education Initiative

- 1890 HBCU Land-Grant Colleges and Universities
- 1994 Tribal Land-Grant Colleges and Universities
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Internships/Scholars/Fellows

Youth Coordinator

- Works to prepare youth for careers in agriculture, food and natural resources
- Works closely with HEI Program Coordinators and connects with schools and youth organizations to promote agency collaboration
- Works across USDA agencies to promote internships and other opportunities for youth to promote agricultural interest in USDA careers

Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers (aka The “2501 Program”)

Competitive grant program for projects that provide outreach, education, mentoring and technical assistance for socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers.

The goal is to increase access to and awareness of USDA’s programs and services in socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers’ communities. This includes assisting them in operating sustainable farming operations.

Program Basics: Recipients

- The recipients must be a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization (includes tribal organizations)
- Higher Education Institutions (LGU-1890, 1994 or HSI)
- Other - 1862s and nonprofits w/o 501(c)(3) with ag curriculum
- Not for individuals (see www.usda.gov/newfarmers)
- Priority to nongovernmental, community-based organizations with expertise in training and outreach to socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers

Definition: Socially Disadvantaged

- A member of group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Ask for special incentives/set aside funds.
- These groups include:
 - African Americans
 - American Indians or Alaskan Natives
 - Asians or Pacific Islanders
 - Hispanics
 - Women are not considered “socially disadvantaged” but are eligible beneficiaries as “veterans”

Definition: Veteran Farmer or Rancher

Veteran farmer or rancher means a farmer or rancher who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released from the service under conditions other than dishonorable. (See 7 U.S.C. 2279(e) for further details.)

Funding Levels

- 2018 Farm Bill reauthorized the Program Funding
- FY 2021 - \$17.5 million plus additional stimulus funding of \$37 million (still available)
- FY 2022 - \$20 million
- FY 2023 - \$25 million in permanent funding thereafter
- No Matching Funds Required

2501 Grant Program

- Maximum grant is \$250,000 per year
- Must be 3-year terms
- Peer reviews (external with experience working with socially disadvantaged and veterans)
- Priority for nongovernmental/community-based organizations (per 2018 Farm Bill)
- Geographical diversity
- Stakeholder feedback (during annual symposium)

Proposal Submission Requirements, *cont'd.*

- **Register with Grants.Gov – Right Away!**
http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp
 - Several steps may be required; could take weeks to complete
- **Check on Computer essentials**
 - Adobe Acrobat – only PDF files are accepted
 - High speed connection may be required
 - Work with universities, county extension, libraries, or non-profits

Independent Peer Review Panel

- **Designed to be fair and unbiased as required in 2018 Farm Bill**
- Reviewers include applicant peers
- Only information in the application is used
- **Completely confidential** - Identity of reviewers undisclosed
- Contents of proposals subject to FOIA
- Honorariums provided

Resources

Build on prior experience and avoid duplication by reviewing past and current projects:

- “Funded Projects” on OPPE’s grants page:
<https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/socially-disadvantaged-farmers-and-ranchers>
- Library, Programs & Projects at
www.FarmAnswers.org
- USDA Resources - www.farmers.gov
- Grants.gov
- USDA Liaisons/Field-Based

Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers

- 15 New Members
- Hosts Public Meetings
- 1- and 2-year terms
- New solicitation rotates for additional members
- Contact members for input into USDA services
- Press Release announcing all public meetings are posted on the Federal Register at:
www.federalregister.gov
- <https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committees>

Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

- 20 Members
- Hosts Public Meetings
- 1- and 2-year terms
- New solicitation rotates for additional members
- Contact members for input into USDA services
- Press Release announcing all public meetings are posted on the Federal Register at:
www.federalregister.gov
- <https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committees>

White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders

(WHIAAPI)

- The Department developed a strategic plan including benchmarks to monitor progress in engaging Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs).
- USDA is currently evaluating the 2017 Census of Agriculture data to improve understanding of the participation of AAPIs in U.S. farming and ranching.

Women in Agriculture

- OPPE renewed its efforts to support Women in Agriculture initiatives to focus on mentorship and the development of science, technology, engineering, and math skills of the stakeholder group.
- OPPE will continue promoting ways to include women in USDA outreach efforts and help build leadership and advancement opportunities in agriculture and agribusiness.

Military Veteran Agricultural Liaison

- Serves as a liaison for military veterans seeking opportunities for veteran entrepreneurship, education and employment
- Assist transitioning service members, veterans and their families to successfully transition into the food and ag sectors and back to rural America
- Bill Ashton (Bill.Ashton@usda.gov)

Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

- Serves as a focal point to promote partnerships and empower faith-based organizations to provide vital services in underserved and low-income communities
- Assists philanthropic organizations with capacity building to strengthen and nourish communities by applying for USDA Programs and services



Contact Information for OPPE

partnerships@usda.gov

www.usda.gov/partnerships

General Questions: 202-720-6350

Questions



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

The Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (WTCAC)

OPPE/WTCAC Success Story

**USDA, *Farming Opportunities Training and
Outreach***
February 2, 2022

Jeffrey Mears, Executive Director



WTCAC



WTCAC



WTCAC Partners

Department of Natural
Resources

Department of Agriculture, Trade
and Consumer Protection

University of Wisconsin
Extension



DOI – Bureau



Environment



US Army Corps
Engineers



US Fish & Wildlife



WTCAC Tribal Partners & Sub-committees

Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission



Fisheries

Lac Courte Oreilles Community College



Forestry

College of the Menominee Nation



Wetlands

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council



Agriculture

Intertribal Agriculture Council



Invasive Species

Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council



Wildlife



The OPPE/WTCAC Success Story

- “Grow our Own USDA Employees”
- 43 individuals have participated
- Created future employment success stories

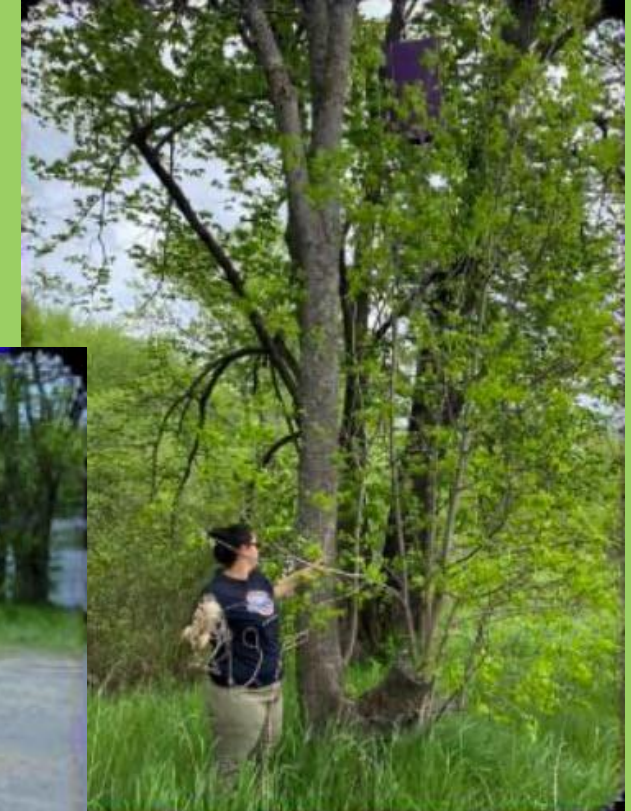




The OPPE/WTCAC Success Story

Joey Billyboy

- 1994 Tribal Scholars Participant
- Two-year WTCAC Intern
- Currently at Washington State education program with USDA



The OPPE/WTCAC Success Story

Elena Hill

- Worked with different aspects of Oneida Nation food systems
- Oversaw multiple aquaponics systems, farmers markets, and community gardens
- "This experience became a passion I will explore and share throughout my life."



The Results

- 14 in-person training events
- 15 virtual events
- Over 400 participants
- 100+ tribes in attendance





Yaw^ko (Thanks)!

ANY QUESTIONS?

Jeffrey Mears, Executive Director
jmears@wtcac.org

Melissa Johnson, Pest Survey Specialist
mjohnson@wtcac.org

Tom Melnarik, Civil Engineering Technician
tmelnarik@wtcac.org

Jonathan Pruitt, Resource Conservationist
jpruitt@wtcac.org





United States Department of Agriculture



Overview of USDA Urban Agriculture Programs

Leslie Glover II, Program Manager, Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

What is OUAIP?

1. Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Federal Advisory Committee

2. Pilots: Urban and Suburban County Committees

Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

3. Pilot: Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction Projects

4. Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program



United States Department of Agriculture

Why is OUAIP?



To Make a Difference

“The environment is where we all meet; where we all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share. It is not only a mirror of ourselves, but a focusing lens on what we can become.”

– Lady Bird Johnson



To Help People, We Must Reach People

- Success hinges on acceptance and engagement from local communities



OUAIP NFO Funding Opportunities

- Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction Cooperative Agreements (CCFWR)
- Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants





United States Department of Agriculture

Compost and Food Waste Reduction Agreements

- 1) generate compost
- 2) increase access to compost for agricultural producers
- 3) reduce reliance on, and limit the use of fertilizer
- 4) improve soil quality
- 5) encourage waste management and permaculture business development
- 6) increase rainwater absorption
- 7) reduce municipal food waste
- 8) divert food waste from landfills.





United States Department of Agriculture

Compost and Food Waste Reduction Agreements

- Funded 37 cooperative agreements worth \$3 million in 2020 and 2021 combined





United States Department of Agriculture

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants

- Support planning and implementation projects
- Focus on urban and suburban areas where access to fresh foods is limited or unavailable.
- Eligible applicants:
 - nonprofit organizations
 - units of local government
 - tribal governments
 - schools that serve grades K-12





United States Department of Agriculture

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants

- Funded 31 competitive grants worth \$7.77 million in 2020 and 2021 combined





United States Department of Agriculture

Contact Us

For more information, visit:

www.Farmers.gov/urban



Have questions? Email:

UrbanAgriculture@usda.gov





United States Department of Agriculture

Thank You

www.farmers.gov/urban





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Risk Management Education



Cooperative Agreements

Risk
Management
Agency
rma.usda.gov

- The Risk Management Education Partnership Program is authorized by Section 522, Federal Crop Insurance Act
- RMA is authorized to provide education for farmers through partnerships w/ public & private orgs
- 2018 Farm Bill eliminated dedicated funding for RME programs, but excess 522 funding may be used

- Nine projects totaling approximately \$1M in funding
- Eight state-level and one nationwide project
- Projects cover historically underserved producers and communities, and specialty crop producers
- Partners include Community Based Organizations, Universities, and State Departments of Ag
- Partners were directly selected by RMA due to time constraints

2021 - Risk Management Education



Primary Partner
Intertribal Agriculture Council ...

Suggested Funding Amount
\$350,000

Target Demographic
Native American Farmers,Beginnin...

Entity Category
Community Based,University

State
Nationwide

Comments
Indigenous Food and Agriculture I...



Primary Partner
Washington State University E...

Suggested Funding Amount
\$67,500

Target Demographic
Beginning Farmers and Ranchers,...

Entity Category
University Extension

State
Washington

Comments
-



Primary Partner
Michigan State University Cent...

Suggested Funding Amount
\$158,000

Target Demographic
Urban Farmers and Ranchers,Afric...

Entity Category
Community Based,University Exten...

State
Michigan

Comments
Partners include Keep Growing De...



Primary Partner
North-South Institute

Suggested Funding Amount
\$144,320

Target Demographic
Beginning Farmers and Ranchers,...

Entity Category
Community Based,University Exten...

State
Florida

Comments
Partners include University of Flori...



Primary Partner
MESA/Farmer Campus

Suggested Funding Amount
\$50,000

Target Demographic
Hispanic Farmers and Ranchers,Afr...

Entity Category
Community Based,University

State
California

Comments
Partners include the Community A...



Primary Partner
Seven Rivers RC&D

Suggested Funding Amount
\$80,405

Target Demographic
Limited Resource Farmers and Ran...

Entity Category
HBCU

State
Georgia

Comments
Partners include Georgia State Foo...



Primary Partner
University of Texas Rio Grande

Suggested Funding Amount
\$20,000

Target Demographic
Hispanic Farmers and Ranchers,Li...

Entity Category
University

State
Texas

Comments
-



Primary Partner
University of Connecticut

Suggested Funding Amount
\$49,760

Target Demographic
Beginning Farmers and Ranchers,...

Entity Category
University Extension

State
Connecticut

Comments
Partners include CT Farmers New ...



Primary Partner
University of Maryland

Suggested Funding Amount
\$35,000

Target Demographic
Beginning Farmers and Ranchers,L...

Entity Category
State Dept of Ag

State
Maryland

Comments
The Maryland State Department o...

Funding Projects Dashboard

Provides quick access to data, oversight, and key information of each plan.

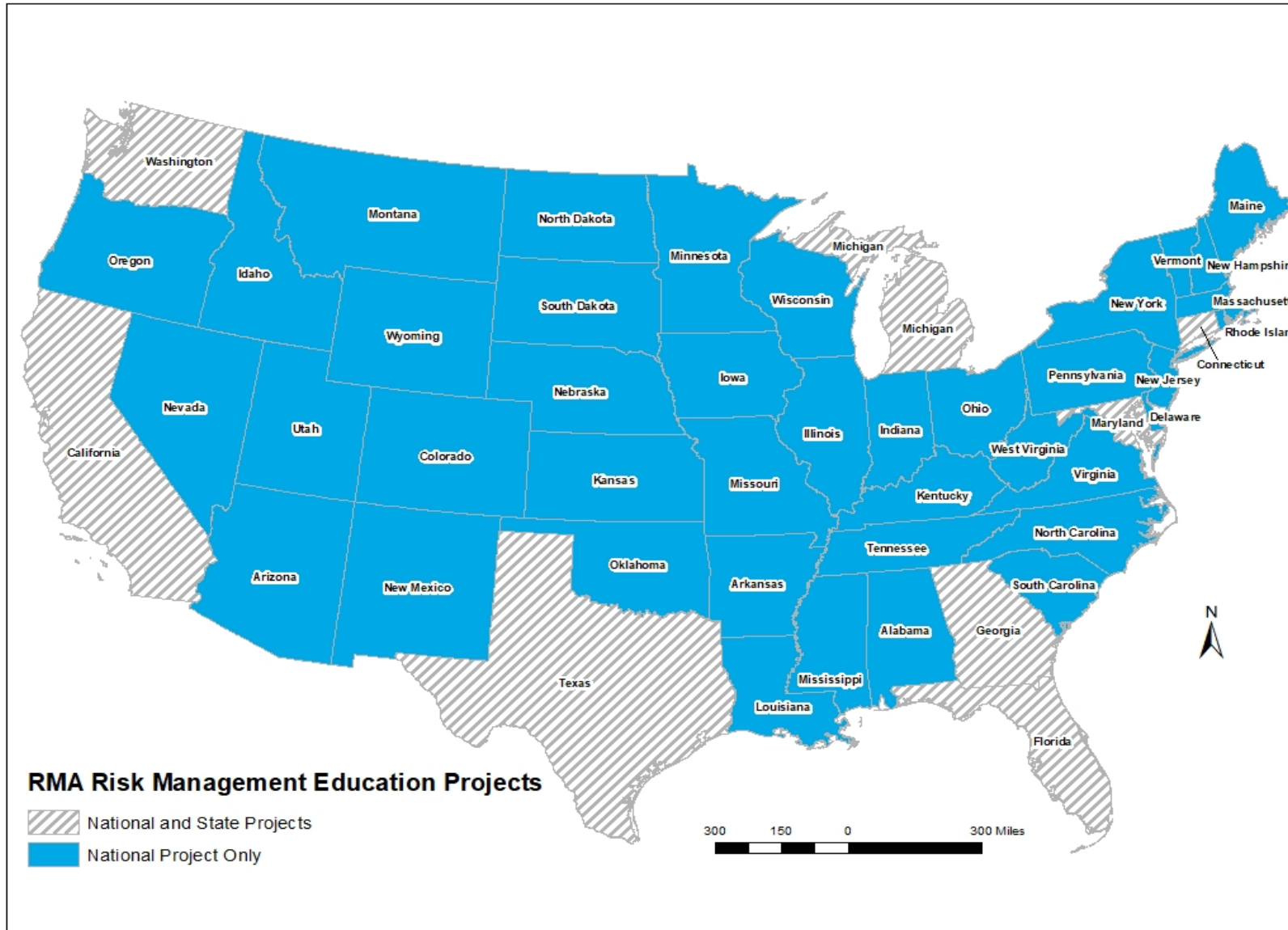
Can be sorted to quickly gather information by target demographic, entity, partner, region and subject.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

States Covered FY2021

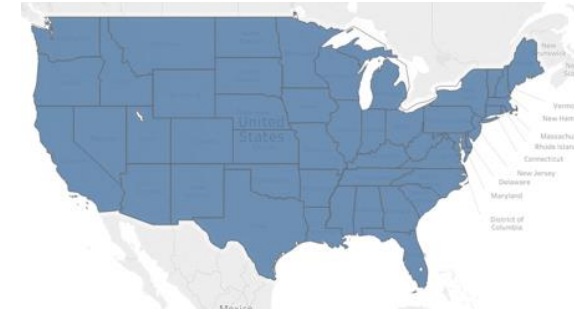
➤ E
➤ F
➤ F



Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC)/Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative (IFAI)

IAC and IFAI will:

- Deliver educational information about risk management and crop insurance in a manner respectful for Native producers.
- Provide technical assistance through its nationwide network.
- Total Cost: \$350,000





Groups Reached FY 2021

Number of Projects by Demographic Group



- \$2M funding, competitive process
- Focus will continue to be on historically underserved producers, traditionally underserved areas
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO) posted in January, projects begin this summer
- March 11 deadline for applications

RME Agency Priorities



RME Target Demographics



Announcement of funding opportunity:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=337301>

Training for application process:

<https://z.umn.edu/RMA-Application-Webinar>

USDA Press Release:

[USDA Invests 2 Million in RME for Historically Underserved Small Scale Producers | RMA](#)

Questions?



www.rma.usda.gov

Experiential Learning Opportunities for Limited Resource Growers through Mobile Farm Innovation in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia

Kristin Woods, Ph.D.
Alabama Cooperative
Extension System



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

This work is supported by Food Safety Outreach Program [grant no. 2019-70020-30349] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

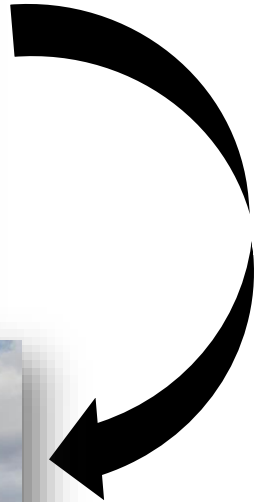


Farm Innovation Project Objectives

- Design and construct three Mobile Farm Innovation trailers to meet the learning needs of limited resource growers with small acreage
- Develop and implement a multimodal and modular training program that balances food safety and conservation needs
- Conduct outreach in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia
- Evaluate the program



Farm Innovation Trailers



- The trailers are wrapped in photographs and text depicting safe water use, hygiene practices, vegetative buffers, and safe rotational grazing.
- The inside of the trailer has been modified with cabinets, electrical outlets, and additional space to hold experiential learning activities.



Farm Innovation Project Trailers

The trailers have been deployed to:

- Deep South Food Alliance in Linden, AL
- Alabama A&M University Small Farms Research Center in Normal, AL
- Fort Valley State University in Valdosta, GA



Farm Innovation Outputs

15 Factsheets and Facilitator Guides:

- On-Farm Handwashing Station
- CoolBot & Cold Storage
- Cleaning and Sanitizing
- Choosing a Sanitizer
- Water Sampling
- Google Maps
- Rotational Grazing
- Vegetative Buffers



Farm Innovation Outputs

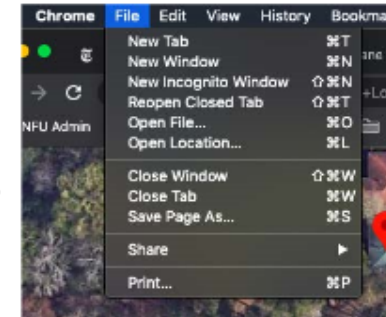
7 Educational Screencasts:

- Google Maps
- Produce Safety Alliance Required Records Document
- K-State Exemption Worksheet
- Alabama Extension Farming Basics
- National Food Safety Clearinghouse
- Vermont Peer-to-Peer Portal
- Produce Safety Alliance Sanitizer Tool

7. Click on the “satellite” button on the bottom left of the screen. This should change your view to satellite view, giving you a birds eye view of your farm and the surrounding area.



11. This will vary depending on your computer and internet browser. For Google Chrome on a Mac, bring your clicker up to the top of your screen and click on file and then click on print - even if you just want to save, click on print first. For other browsers, you may have to “right click” on your mouse to bring up the directions or try something else.

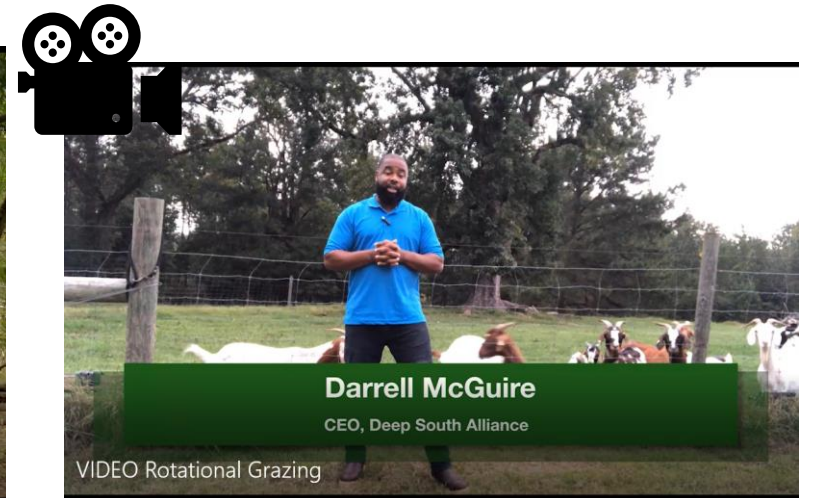
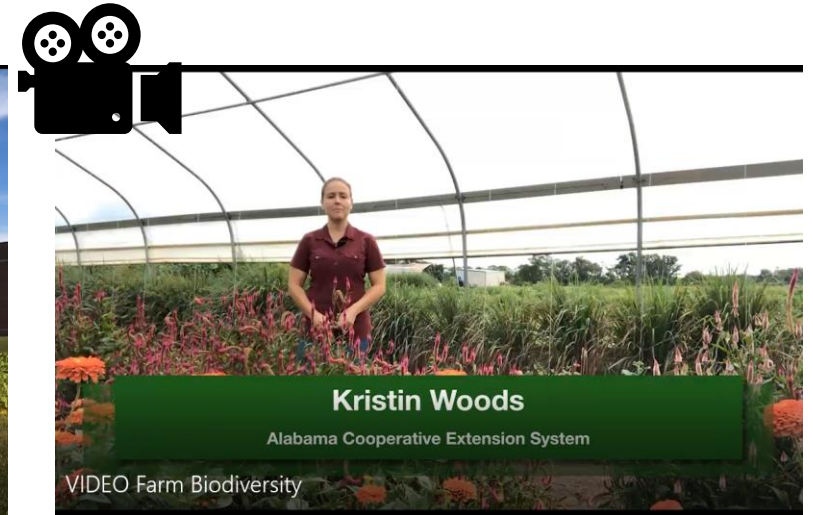
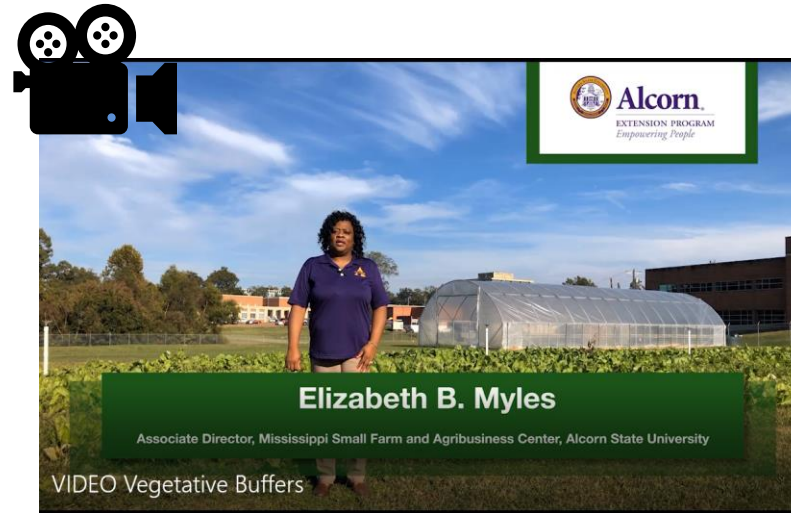


12. This will give you a couple of options, some of these may not be on every computer. You should be able to print and save as a PDF. We’re going to “Save as PDF.” Again, this may vary depending on your computer and browser.

Farm Innovation Outputs

4 Short Videos:

- Vegetative Buffers
- Rotational Grazing
- Irrigation
- Biodiversity





Farm Innovation Project Outreach

- Pilot event in Okolona, MS in December 2021
- Prentis, MS
- Okolona, MS – this weekend
- Valdosta, GA
- Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, GA
- 2021 Tuskegee Annual Small Farmers Conference in Linden, AL
- Alabama Bee Festival
- PSA Training in Birmingham, AL
- PSA Training in Tuskegee, AL
- 2022 Tuskegee Annual Small Farmers Conference in Selma, AL – later this month



Farm Innovation Project Pilot Results

- Participants were asked questions about the importance of on-farm handwashing, maintaining a cold chain, cleaning and sanitizing, having a farm map, and water sampling.
- After each activity, participants reported they were more likely to install on-farm handwashing, install a CoolBot storage unit, make a farm map, and test their water.

Pre-Activity

I plan to build an on-farm handwashing sink
58.33% Strongly Agree
I plan to build a CoolBot produce storage unit
45.45% Strongly Agree
I plan to make a farm map
16.67% Some What Agree 66.67% Strongly Agree
I plan on testing my water
16.67% Some What Agree 58.33% Strongly Agree 16.67% Already Doing It

Post Activity

Post: I Plan of building an on-farm handwashing sink
84.62% Strongly Agree
Post: I plan to build a CoolBot produce storage unit
72.73% Strongly Agree
Post: I plan to make a farm map
100% Strongly Agree
Post: I plan on testing my water
7.69% Neither agree or Disagree 7.69% Some What agree 84.62% Strongly Agree



Small Farm Irrigation
Factsheet and Video Series

Experiential
Learning Guide

Whole Farm
Planning Technical
Assistance Guide

Cooperative
Agreement
with FDA



Farm to Food
Project

USDA
AMS
FMLFPP
Funded

USDA NIFA
FSOP Funded



Farm Innovation Project Partners

Collaborators

- Andrew Williams, Deep South Food Alliance (TUCCA)
- E'licia Chaverest, Alabama A&M Small Farms Research Center
- Dr. Valens Niyigena, Alabama A&M University
- Joshua Dawson, Fort Valley State University
- Billy Mitchell and Tricia Wancko, National Farmers Union
- David Miller, Tuskegee University
- Dr. Elizabeth Myles, Alcorn State University
- Carolyn Jones, Mississippi Minority Farmers Alliance
- Janice Hall, Amelia Mitchell, Rebecca Catalena, David Daniel, Olivia Fuller, Dr. Camila Rodrigues, Auburn University

Farmer Advisory Board

- Nancy Carnley, Machis Tribe
- Carolyn Jones (MS)
- Demetrius Milling (GA)
- Bill Minor (AL)
- Monica Ponce (GA)
- Grover Robinson (AL)
- Ozell White (MS)

Kristin Woods, Ph.D.

WOODSKL@aces.edu

251-753-1164



Agricultural Marketing Service

Creating Opportunities for American Farmers and Businesses

Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant Program



The Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant Program

- The Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant Program provides grants to food processors, distributors, farmers markets, and producers to respond to coronavirus, including for measures to protect workers against COVID-19.
- The PRS Grant Program was developed in response to extensive stakeholder feedback from March 2021 listening session and written comments.
- \$650 M available to fund applications; min. funding request \$1,500 and max. funding request \$20,000

Application Process

- Program Launched: October 6, 2021
- Program Closed: November 22, 2021
- Application Status: Later this week/early week of February 7
- Payments Start: Now – March 2022

PRS Help Desk

PRS Help Desk

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9 AM – 6 PM ET

(301) 238 – 5550

usda.ams.prs@grantsolutions.gov

Help Desk Website: https://usda-prs.grantsolutions.gov/usda?id=usda_help

PRS Website: <https://usda-prs.grantsolutions.gov/usda>

